

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1891.

London Offices of THE SUR,
450 West Strand,
All communications should be addressed to FRANK
N. WHITE, 450 Strand, London, W. G.

Again a Buffer?

The mostly sincere but unnecessarily emo tional persons in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia who look upon sliver as the root of evil and free coinage as the unspeakable sin, are depending upon Tom REED to pull up that root and prevent that sin. They point with glee to the fact that Mr. REED has not shown himself sufficiently interested in the subject to appoint a Chairman of the Coinage Committee in succession to Mr. CONGER of Iowa, now Minister to Brazil. They are sure that he will have free coinage killed in the committee or, falling in that, prevent its consideration by the House.

The anti-argentines may be right, yet Mr. REED used to be a man of abundant sense of humor. Is it possible that he regards the dollar of our daddles with a true Mugwumplan loathing? Does the legend upon the cartwheel dollar seem a mockery to him since Nov. 4? Doubtless he has taken the tone of the Eastern States in regard to silver, but now that the country has made evident its intention of having more silver money, why should Mr. REED buck against public opinion again? Why should be once more interject his 240-odd pounds between BENJAMIN HARRISON and the wrath of the silver men? Benevolence is a laudable quality, but there are times when it is good to be good to yourself. Mr. REED was blackballed at the Candidates' Club last fall. It is now the time for considering the application of Bunjamin Harrison.

Mr. REED has monkeyed with the Constitution of the United States so much that perhaps he has forgotten how it reads. Any Democratic member will be glad to lend him a copy. Consulting it, Mr. REED will see that the veto power is given to the President and not to the Speaker. Why posch upon the President's preserves? Why not give the old man a chance to show what kind of stuff he's made of?

And supposing that Mr. REED doesn't veto a free colnage bill, will Mr. HARRISON dare to? Will the pen with which his veto of a silver bill is to be written ever be given to some silver-scorning enthusiast, who, dving, will bequeath it as a rich legacy unto his issue? We guess not. We guess that there is no such pen, stub or quill, of gold or steel in Mr. HARBISON'S office desk.

The State and the Insane Poor.

The bill so actively promoted last year by the State Charities Aid Association passed the Legislature and was signed by Governor HILL and became a law.

The new law makes the pauper and indi gent insane the wards of the State. It takes them out of the county poorhouses, where there have unquestionably been serious abuses of management and in some cases positive inhumanity in the treatment of the unfortunates, and puts them into State asylums, where they will have the benefit of more systematic and kinder care and more scientific treatment.

The main objection, and, indeed, the only objection to the measure, was pointed out by THE SUN at the time the plan of State regulation was proposed by the State Charities Aid Association. The law throws upon the taxpayers of New York city and Brook lyn a somewhat larger share of the cost of maintaining the indigent and pauper insane of the other counties of the State than belongs equitably to the metropolitan district.

It is now found necessary to enlarge the State asylums in order to accommodate about a thousand patients who are still held in the county poorhouses. The Legislature will be asked to vote an appropriation of \$500,000 to carry out the law and put the new system into full operation.

The appropriation should be granted by the Legislature without hesitation. No argument against the principle of the original its form of local government, and to place bill is now a proper matter for considera tion. It is right and proper that the experiment of State regulation, having been ordered by the Legislature, should be tried under the fairest and most liberal conditions. The members of the Senate and the Assembly who represent this town and Brooklyn will not go wrong if they vote the money that is needed to carry out the law.

Beck, Morgan, and Cleveland,

In his speech in the Senate on Friday and Saturday the Hon. JOHN T. MORGAN quoted at length from the very able speech de livered on March 13, 1888, by the late Senator BECK. Mr. BECK was one of the best informed and thorough students of financial and economic questions in the country The contempt which he could not help feel ing for the positiveness with which GROVER CLEVELAND pronounced his shallow and second-hand opinions about silver money is visible in this passage from the speech quoted by Mr. MORGAN:

"I have no doubt that the present President of the United States, who had no means of knowing half as much about financial matters at home or abroad as the Senator from Obio [Mr. Summan] did, or as mu when he came into the high position of Chief Magi trate of the republic by the clamor that had been kep ry of Treasury against silver, and that leading both parties in New York city endeavored to persuade him, and did convince him, that unless he unsomething to stop the coinage of silver, ruin would
speedily follow. I have no doubt the Fresident was
alarmed; and I know that when he came here first he
alarmed; and I know that when he came here first he
alarmed; and I know that when he came here first he thought the advice so ably advanced by the Senator from Obio and other Secretaries of Treasury during former Administrations was good. * * Little won-der the Frendest, then comparatively a new man

in national politics, was staggered." Mr. BECK'S apology for Mr. CLEVELAND was fatal in its politeness. It simply accounted for his opposition to silver by explaining that he was raw and green and didn't know what he was talking about Now that he continues in his old error while the great majority of his party is in favor of silver, there is not even Mr. BECK's apology to be made for him. The Mugwumps are still his masters. Differing with his party in regard to the subject which now most interests them, his disqualification as a candidate for President is absolute. In the Associated Press report of Mr. Mongan's speech is found the following passage point-

ing out Mr. CLEVELAND's ineligibility: "It will be observed how kindly and frankly and stronger Senator Back dissented from the attitude of the recent Democratic Administration on this question while I regret that our party is not a unit upon thi great question: while I regret that that fact may lea the people of the United States even to dispense with the services of very great men, because of their failure to come up to the demands of the country on the finas cial question, I may be permitted to say that the people of the United States have been struggling for years and years together to have their will and voice obeyed on this question, and if this Congress of the United States should even make a mistake in yielding to their do manda, the people will have themselves to blama use they have certainly. In the most erate and distinct way, pronounced to favor of the restoration of silver money as a money of legal tender value and quality to the ofroniation of the country."

The "very great men" was an evident son

to Mr. CLEVELAND, the bow that accompanied the kick. In the revised report of Mr. Morgan's speech, printed in the Congres-sional Record of Jan. 11, the passage has been softened, and reads thus:

"It will be observed how frankly and how strongly he [Mr. Back] dissented from the attitude of the recen Democratic Administration upon that question. In that dissent he has the support of nearly every Democrat in the United States, at least in the South and in the West, and while I regret that our party is not a unit upon this great question. I must be permitted to say, Mr. Freeddent, that the people of the United States have been strugiling for years and years together to have their will and their votee obeyed upon this question, and if the Congress of the United States should ever make a mistake in refusing to yield to their demands, they will have themselves to blame and not us, became the people have in the most definite and distinct way pronounced in favor of the restoration of silver money as coin of legal tender value and quality to the circula-

The notice to quit served upon the Claimant by Mr. Moroan is not put in as emphatic terms in the revised version, but its intent and purpose are plain. The Democratic party is for silver. The Claimant is against silver. It is not the Democratic party that will have to go.

The Restoration of Self-Government.

The disposition of State Legislatures to interfere with the government of cities and tinker city charters and abridge municipal autonomy is inveterate and apparently incurable. The foreign and native observers who express such gloomy forebodings in regard to the future of municipal government in the United States have no real justification for their lugubriousness save the meddiesome paternalism of the Legislatures. It stands to reason that a municipality which is not allowed to govern itself will in the course of time forget how to govern itself. But the protests of the municipalities against legislative interference continue to be vain. With what sublime confidence in their superiority the gentlemen from the rural districts persist in trying to conduct the affairs of this town, for instance. How soon would it be before the Equitable Life Assurance Company or the Western Union Telegraph Company would have to close its doors if a committee of the Legislature were constantly nosing into its business and giving new directions for its management? Yet this greater corporation of New York city, with its infinitely more important concerns, is always exposed to the ignorant, fussy interference of the Legislature. The same thing is true of most other great cities in the United States. Mayor MATTHEWS of Boston gave a part of his first message to a lament over the inability of that city to have home rule. Governor CAMPBELL of Ohio, in his message of last Tuesday, proposed a radical reform of municipal government by giving to each nunicipality the power to select and retain its form of government without being bothered and hampered by the Legislature

"A system must be devised," says Governor CAMPBELL, "which shall end legislative tampering with local affairs of cities. The true solution would seem to be in a provision whereby cities may govern themselves without interference from any outside authority." Governor Campbell's plan for giving home rule to the cities is as follows:

"Each city should model its own government, provided only that it conform to the Constitution, and to those general laws which must necessarily have the same character throughout the State. To do this would require an amendment to the Constitu-tion which could readily be submitted to the people for amendment ought to be so constructed as to enable the people of any city to call a charter convention upon ty years. Such convention could construct a charter which, upon submission to and approval by a pepular ful consideration with which it was created. The peple of the cities which adopted charters would then be arouse them to vigorous action. When they can no longer att aupinely waiting for the General Assembly se nd purify their municipal affairs."

Why isn't this a good plan? It is consistent with the theory of Democratic-Republican self-government. It gives the people of a municipality the power to choose upon them alone the responsibility for success or failure. The right of self-government has been taken away from the cities Governor Campbell's plan for restoring it deserves attentive consideration.

The Chattaway Cat-Compeller.

The only KEELY's motor is still in the ether, but the inventive genius of Philadelphia has not ceased to burn brightly. A Philadelphia machinist, Mr. JOHN J. CHAT-TAWAY, has discovered a device for capturing feline minstrels. Quiet as of the cemetery is absolutely essential to the comfort of a Philadelphian, but the Quaker cats have not as yet learned to mitigate their nocturnal concerts or to temper their love-lorn lays. They patrol the fences and the back yards with the noisy vehemence of their kind, and protesting Philadelphia waves its nightcap and shouts and screams in vain. But the researches of the ingenious Mr. CHATTAway have shown how to bell the cat. The part of the town in which he lives, so writes an enthusiast in the Philadelphia Times, " is the Arcadia for all the lovemaking Toms and Tabbies in the neighborhood. On his back fence and on the back fences of all his neighbors it has been the nightly cus tom, rain or shine, for hundreds of nocturnal prowlers to congregate, and there hold discordant revel." Poisoned meat and spring traps were tried without effect. The cate laughed at them. Broken glass, barbed wire, and other amulets against the fence haunter were equally useless. The cats continued their vociferous proceedings, and

In the sleepless nights the brain of CHAT-TAWAY kept working at a plan for conquering the invader of his peace. It came to him finally in a dream. "From his ash pit he dug a pile of empty tomato cans, and out of these, supplemented by a roll of condemned roofing tin, which a sympathizing neighbor kindly donated, he manufactured a contrivance that, if universally adopted, will rob the funny paragraphers of one of their most fecund sources of supply." His completed device for a cat-compeller is " a continuous strip of pyramidal-shaped tin, the apex of the pyramid being placed on top of the fence. The base of the tin triangle is left open, and its sloping sides hang over the fence and stand out from its face. As the apex of this tin roof comes to a sharp point, and its sides are too smooth even for the claw holds of a cat, the result, when a Tom or Tabby attempts to cross it, is obvious. As soon as their feet strike the tin they are bound to slip, and a fall on one or the other side of the fence is inevitable. As the tin sides project beyond the face of the fence, it is impossible for the fallen feline to

the inhabitants swore and suffered.

The first night's catch is thus reported : "It was late Monday afternoon when Machinist Caar pess had hardly fallen before the cats began to congre gate. As Machinist Charraway's house is near the mid dis of the block his back fence was a sort of meeting place, and the spet where all combats were arranged and fought out. The night was not so dark as to pre-went the confident invantor from witnessing the result

climb back to its perch again."

from his library windows. The first cat to strike the compeller, a signatic Tom, sorang upon the tin coping with a meew of diedain. Like a dash Tom's maltese body described a semicircle, and much to his amazement he landed in the yard. Recovering himself, and with his feline mood up, Iom gripped the fence and scrambled upward. His head struck the projecting tin. and after one or two fulle attempts to get a claw hold he slid back into the pard, sams sirrit, sams mode, sams confidence. Tom realized that he was a prisoner, and lay low, uttering from time to time a

subdued and mournful meow.

"He was not long without company. A tabby was the next victim, and a though he recognized her as Au old time sweetheart and she identified him as a once favored beau, petther had any heart for lovemaking. but crouched in opposite corners of the yard, diagnatedly blinking at each other. From that time on until dawn, cats came and but faw escaped. Those that were fortunate enough to fail on the alley side of the fence scampered away, with their distended tails alort. "Early peaterday morning the smiling inventor softly opened his back door and peeped out. By actual count there were seventeen cats in the yard. Old fighter and young fighters were huddled together. Misery had made them forget their animosities and they greated the machinist with frightened stares and mournful whines. When he opened the back gate they rushed out m.o the alley and scampered away."

This "star-y-pointing pyramid" or tin triangle of Mr. Chartaway's is an excellent thing for any Philadelphian who wants to fill his back yard with cats, but will it be satisfactory in other cities? A delegation of New York cats suddenly falling into a back yard would wake the welkin with their meows; and so the remedy might be worse than the disease. Apparently the Philadelphia cats are Mugwumps. They make an unholy row as long as they are or the fence. When they are off the fence their courage and their loquacity desert them But to Philadelphia Mr. CHATTAWAY has given a great boon; and his statue ought to be set up in some of the public squares.

Women and the Church.

The argument of those who oppose the revival of the order of deaconesses in the Pres-byterian Church is that if women are admitted to the diaconate, they will logically be entitled to enter the ministry.

Unquestionably that is a sound view of the case. If women are put on an equality with men in this one office of the Church, their right to hold other offices will be recognized Moreover, if the Protestant Churches utilize the religious zeal of women by enrolling them as desconesses, are they not taking a long step toward the establishment of sisterhoods and the introduction of the system of monasticism?

Already in the Episcopal Church there are sisterhoods which amount practically to the orders of nuns in the Roman Church. These plous women may not take perpetual yows of chastity and poverty, but the majority of them enter the societies with the firm intention of devoting their lives to religious labors in entire seclusion from the world. Perhaps they may be the more faithful to their word because it is not pledged formally, but is registered merely in their own bosoms. In their garb and their deportment they are not distinguishable from the sisters of the Roman orders, except by those who have special knowledge as to the matter. They also are studious in learning how to make themselves practically useful to the poor and sick; and the school for the instruction of deaconesses established by the Rev. Dr. HUNTINGTON of Grace Church has therefore supplied a very earnest demand. There they are systematically trained as nurses and sisters of charity, and also to some extent as theologians.

Even the Methodist Church, one of the most Protestant of churches, has introduced deaconesses as a part of the machinery of the organization. At present they are married women and maidens, whose devotion to religious works is taken on as an addition to their usual domestic duties and employments; but the order must eventually become a distinct profession if it is kept up. Whether the Church requires the selfabnegation or not, women are sure to impose on themselves vows that amount to the abstinence of monasticism. They will insist on making the self-sacrifice.

We are not surprised, therefore, that the majority report of the New York Presbytery was against the establishment of an order of deaconesses in the Presbyterian Church The proposition is a step preliminary to the introduction of monasticism into Protescause now mere religious sentiment is more active than positive doctrinal convictions Never before, therefore, was the distinctively feminine influence so powerful in the Church.

The Force bill has killed Southern Republi-It is the weight that has been crushing down the Republican party, North and South, since the apostles of the "new Republicanism" put it on the party programme in the winter of 1890.

The disturbances in Chili have evidently been brought about by the attempts of President Balmaceda to obtain control of the elections, to exercise an illegal power over Congress, and to prevent the enactment of measures that are known to be favored by a majority of that body. It may be that there is no truth in the charge that he desires to establish a dictatorship, but he has certainly carried out his will in a dictatorial manner. to his office are far greater than a President of any republic ought to possess, but BALMACEDA has gone beyond these in the prosecution of his schemes. He may be able to quell the revolt of which we have received unsatisfactory accounts; but there is no likelihood of his be ing able to maintain the ground he has taken against the authority of Congress.

The Hebrew Technical Institute of this city is a most valuable establishment. It is a manual training school for young Hebrews. and has been in existence for eight years. There are twice as many applicants for admis sion to it as can be taken in. It ought to be better endowed than it is, and its revenues will no doubt be enlarged as soon as its needs are

We cheerfully join our esteemed contem porary, the Westerly Daily Tribune, in further preading acquaintance with the extremely interesting letter submitted to it by the Rev. E. A. Witter of Niantic, R. I. This is the letter: "DEAR SIRE: I wish to express through your columns to my friends and patrons the fellowing notice:

for him. I did so, not thinking that I should break any more; but others came, and being in need of a litt sittle more I have followed the business, breaking a part of the coins that have been brought me. I wish to axtend my thanks to my patrons for the material aid given me and sincerely hope all are as well pleased with the work dene as I know that some are. Finding that the expenditure of so much time and

strength as is required in such a business interferes very materially with my chosen life work, and desir-ing to make the most possible of that be it known to all whem it may concern that I do hereby give up the business until such time, at least, as I shall be com-pelled by necessity to take it up again. E. A. Witten. "Niastic, R. L."

The Rev. Mr. WITTER has the initial qualification for being a good man—a liking for a good horse. A breaker of colts could not possibly have built up Mr. WITTER's former colt-breaking business without that instinctive understanding of a horse's ways and well-tempered consideration of its faults that denote a fun ismental sympathy with its race and an appreciation of its value to mankind. Besides entoying horses' society and getting a great deal of fun out of teaching them manners. Mr. Witten added money thereby to his fixed salary and increased his domestic comfert. But the

business grew until he was aware of its interference with his work as clergyman, and upon that this extra fun and emolument was out off

with the stern sense of justice that raised the sword to murder the child brought before SOLOMON. Mr. WITTER's conduct deserves the expressed commendation of the public situted no matter how many miles from Niantic. The course for this Niantie parish to pursue

priety. They ought to raise his salary.

The Democratic party appears to be for The Mugwump party is against free silver.

Mr. CLEVELAND holds with the Mugwumps He may be their candidate. He can't be the candidate of the Democracy. It was a businesslike speech that Mr.

CORNELIUS VANDERBILT made at the meeting of the railroad branch Young Men's Christian Association on in the membership of the association, praised its work, and presented instructive facts conture courses, and the benevolent service of its various branches. It is alleged that the speech was the longest ever made by the speaker. If he could be induced to give public speeches with more frequency and at greater length than he has yet given them the public would be pleased.

It is our duty to report the fact that the Hon. JOHN RODEBICK MCPHERSON of New Jersey is beginning to loom up as a possible candidate for President.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, whose birthday is to be celebrated in this city on Saturday evening. was born in Boston 185 years ago, and was the roungest boy in a family of seventeen children. He was a great man. His wisdom was beyond hat of ordinary mortals. He was a scholar of high rank in physics as well as in philosophy. He rendered invaluable services to the cause of American independence. He died at the good old age of 84, one hundred years ago last April. All Americans should make themselves fa-miliar with the life and works of their illustrious countryman, BEN FRANKLIN.

It appears from our Topeka despatches that the picturesque JERRY SIMPSON of sockless fame refuses to do anything to promote his Senator Indalls. Other aspirants for the place are securing pledges, laying pipes, pulling wires, and demonstrating their availability. but JERRY stands at one side in bucolic dignity awaiting the judgment of the Legislature on joint bailot. Perhaps this is an illustration of his shrewdness, and perhaps it will strengthen him with the Farmers' Alliance, which has denounced the intrigues of politicians. We are not surprised to learn that the prospect of his election has grown brighter since the opening of the Legislature on Tuesday. If Senator INCALLS is to be defeated as the Republican candidate for the Senate. JERRY SIMPSON is the man who ought to be elected as his successor. His salary as a Senator would enable him to buy and wear a new pair of sooks every day.

The project of establishing a new steamship line to run between the Georgia port of an American project, and its promoters are enterprising Georgians, who do not need to ask any subsidy from the Federal Government. Moreover, the steamships of this new American line should sail the high seas under the American flag, and should be built in American yards and foundries, of American steel and iron, by America's mechanics. They can be built in Southern or in Northern shippards.

Mr. STANLEY has sent a letter to the President of a negro organization in San Francisco about the emigration of American negroes to Africa. He says that the great forest tract of Central Africa would be an "ideal region" for negro colonization; that this region is of vast extent, and that settlements could be built up there through organizations formed in this

We have no doubt of the accuracy of the explorer's statements about the attractions of the African forest regions; but we see no reason to believe that any number of American necross can be drawn there. Our colored people have lived here for generations; they have learned here the advantages of civilization; they have acquired here the habits of orderly industry they enjoy freedom; they live on peaceful terms with their white fellow citizens; they are making good progress in prosperity, and they like the land of their nativity. We doubt duced to go to the African forest regions, even by the offer of a free passage there and the promise of "forty acres and a mule" when they got there. The colored people are here to

A stirring poem in that able and interest ing journal, the Galreston Daily News, proclaims as its sentiment, "Texas, our home shall be divided never!"

This sentiment is as natural as it is commendable. No commonwealth ever wishes to be divided or diminished. And yet when Texas was admitted into the Union it came with a provision that it might be divided into four States. But those were the days of slavery; and notions contrary to human nature were everywhere put forward in the interest of that institution.

Democrats on the Claimant.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—The Democratic Senators got together in the clock room to-day and held an indigna-

They had been reading Cleveland's latest speech, No asyllable could they find in it about the "iniquitous Force bill." These Senators feel that they have fought a good fight. For over two menths they have talked and planned and saved each point that could tell against the Force bill. They have fest the need of ever speech. In it he never once referred to the fight his party was making against the Force bill. The Demo cratic Senators remarked the emission at the time. Night before last Mr. Cleveland made another great

effort in honor of St. Jackson's day.

The Democratic senators fully expected the ex-President would handle the Force bill issue, but he ignored it senirely. So to-day a score of the leaders sat in the clock room and commented most vigorously, and in seme instances a little profuncly. They called him col lved everything at the hands of his party They pledged themselves to oppose more actively an openly than ever his renomination in 1892.

A Successful Statesman

From the Hemphis Scimitor.

Gov. David Bennett Hill may be a machine politician but it's a kind of machine that always runs well.

From the Meyersdale Register.
The New York Sus, the model luminary of American journalism, shines with increasing lustre as it grows sider. In two important particulars it excess all its rivals—in its brief yet comprehensive reports of current events in every quarter of the world, and its impartis and able treatment of the political and social problem opular ideal of a thoroughly independent newspape than any journal published to America

Tribute Where it is Due. From the Memphis Appeal do Mr. Plower deserves much credit for the Democrati riumph of last November.

> On a Rainy Sunday. All day the rain came petting down, Old fiel his face ne'er showing. The skies did naught all day but frown, The winds were rudely blewing. But I remained within my room. The elements defring. Unmoved by all the weather's gleem,

Without so much as sighing bor was I lone-ome day or night. I'an the trid sol was fickle I had his giorious namesake bright, Which cost me but a pickel.

THE SOUTH AWARE.

sator Morgan of Alabama Sounds the Reynote of Presidential Politica.

From the Atlanta Constitution WARHINGTON, Jan. 11. - The Presidential question has been discussed very generally of the gossip concerning it as Senator Morgan's e speech on the silver question, in which he argued eloquently in favor of the Democratic idea of free coinage, and took oceasion to show Mr. Claveland's fatal weakness with his party in his opposition to the stand of the Democracy on the money question

It will be remembered that the late Senator Beck of Kentucky was for years an earnes champion of the free coinage of silver, which met with the open and emphatic opposition of Mr. Cleveland. Wall street has for years been arrayed against the measure, and the gold bugs have had things their way until now.

Senator Beck strongly dissented from the attitude of Mr. Cleveland's Administration, and did not hesitate to say so, and to predict that the Democratic party must soon make the money question a leading issue.

It was in commenting on Senator Beck's position that Senator Morgan took occasion to call attention to Mr. Cleveland's position in these words:

these words:

It will be observed how kindly and frankly and strongly Senator Beek dissented from the attitude of the recent Democratic Administration on this question. In that he has the support of nearly every Democrat in the United States (at least in the South and West), and while I regret that our party is not a unit upon this great question; while I regret that fact may lead the people of the United States even to dispense with the services of very great men, because of their failure to come up to the demands of the country on the financial question. I may be permitted to say that the people of the United States have been struggling for years and years together to have their will and voice obeyed on this question, and if this Congress of the United States should even make a mistake in yielding to their demands, the people will have themselves to blame, and not us, because they have certainly, in the most deliberate and distinct way, pronounced in favor of the restoration of silver money as a money of legal tender value and quality to the circuistion of the country.

In pointing out the necessity of the people

In pointing out the necessity of the people dispensing with the services of very great men because of their failure to come up to the demands of the country on the financial question." he hits the keynote of what is considered to be Mr. Cleveland's fatal weakness.

The farmers' movement in all parts of the ountry has crystallized into a demand for financial reform, and its leaders are practically ananimous in favor of free coinage. They do not hesitate to say that Mr. Cleveland's record on the question will prevent this support from going to him should be be a candidate Be this as it may, Senator Morgan has started

the ball rolling, and Presidential politics will begin to enliven from now on.

Vallombross-A Correction. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The inter-

sting article on Vallombrosa in a recent Sun is erroneously described as "the most famous ranciscan monastery of Italy." It never was a Franciscan monastery. It was founded more than a hundred years before the birth of St. Francis by a Florentine nobleman, St. John Gualbert, who adopted, with certain modifications, the system of the near-by hermitage of Camaldoli. The mistake was obviously occasioned by the circumstance that a few miles higher up, on the summit of the highest of the Apennines, stands the Franciscan convent of Mount Alvernia, the scene of the stigmatization of St. Francis. This rocky eminence possessed for the young Assisian merchant a sweet and powerful attraction. which continues still in its changeless primal springtide to interest the Christian tourist, the This is a huge arm or boulder of rock, which projects several yards outward and upward from its parent mountain source, standing midair without any visible means of support. Beneath is a cave frequented during succeed-ing ages by austere anchorets. The sequestored spot, weird unto ghastliness, at once in spires the spectator with mingled emotions of awe and curiosity. Tradition describes the phenomenon as one of the surviving proofs on the earth's surface of the ubiquitous nature of the earthquake which witnessed to our Saviour's divinity at His death on the cross. 'The earth quaked and the rocks were rent.' local, at the utmost provincial or national, and scientifically traceable to volcanic and other geological agencies. Of this character were the successive violent earthquakes which afflicted Palestine and Syria both before and since our Saviour's lifetime, notably the shock in the reign of Uzziah. which rent in twain the Mount of Olives.

the earthquake at the crucifixion is its universality of action on the entire framework of this earthly planet. Descending from the loftiest peak of the Apennines to the lower regions of the Italian boot, a second evidence is

gions of the Italian boot, a second evidence is pointed out at the promontory of Gaeta, on the flediterranean coast. Both are supported by the authority of Cardinal Baronius in these simple words:

"Porro non Hierosolymis tautum, sed et in plerisque aliis orbis partibus, scissos montes eodem terræ motu, insole firma traditione testantur, nempe in Hetruria montem Alverniæ dictum, et prope littus Campanum Cajetan promontorium."—Annales Eccles, Ann., ch. 34.

In quoting Milton's lines as to the leaves of Vallombrosa, your correspondent unwittingly In quoting Milton's lines as to the leaves of Vallombrosa, your correspondent unwittingly adopts a well-known blunder of the English poet. The foliage is conspicuous by its absence. The unbrageous valley derives its soft shade, not from leaves, but from the closely interwoven branches of thickly set willows and pines, trees notoriously leafless. The worst mistakes of Milton are not in arborology. It is in metaphysics he enjoys his deepest Homeric naps, where he perirays incorpored spirits sitting down to luncheon.

HUGH FLATTERY,

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: I have in my pos-session as old Sun, dated Feb. 4, 1880, and in looking over its columns I find among other interesting matter an account of the execution in the Tombe of one James decisions. The first is that we have not improved is our mode of executions since then—rather the reverse I think—and the other is that Jus. Six high improved and that " Jus Row doth move." Yours Ac. J. B. New Your, Jen. 13.

The Fading Cleveland Myth.

Prom the Birmingham Age Beruid

Mr. Cleveland's Philadelphia speech, strong as it was, and Democratic as it was falled to touch on the vital point of silver coinage. while it emphasized the neces sity of ballot reform a matter of great important probably, but one which is not likely to constitute ti railring cry of the Democracy in the next campaign. Then, too, comes the question, can Mr. Cleveland carry he pivotal State of New York, without which th Democrats can have no certainty of success? There doesn't appear to be any enthusiasm for him there among the Democratic voters. The Heraid, the World, and Tax Sun, the three leading Democratic journal are all opposed to his candidacy. The flux very bitterly so, and his only substantial newspaper support in New York city comes from the Mugwump press.

We make these suggestions through no spirit of hos tility to Mr. Cleveland. But as the time for bolding the Democratic Convention approaches it is will enough to consider carefully all the points of advantage which the various candidates for the nomination may possers in order that the wirest possible choice may be made

The Most Entertaining Paper

From the Augusta Carontele.
The Son is a marvel of newspaper work. It is orien original, compact, and clean. It is free from errors of missions. "If you see it in Tue Sus, it's so." It is the most entertaining paper in the world, printed any language, or set in any matrix.

His Winter Method. Bunting—Young Hunker is a regular ladykiller. Larkin—Ah: How does he doe: atch his victime? Bunting—Just now he sleighs them.

Wreck of New Year's Vows. Bobbie (breathless y)—are you a snake doctor! Dr. Bill (haughtily)—I am not; I am a regular prac

Bobbis-Well, then, you won't do; but pa's resolutions

One for the Printers. From the Washington fort. "We call the new boy who is distributing type 'Ca

PRESIDENT HUNT RE-ELECTED.

He Thanks the Board of Education for Its ment of His Administration

When the Board of Education assembled yesterday for its first regular meeting this year President John L. N. Hunt announced that the first business before it was the election of a President for the ensuing year. Commissioner Holt took the chair and Commissioner Bubble nominated Mr. Hunt for President. The motion was not seconded, but Commissioner O'Brien moved that a vote be taken without waiting for other nomination. Although this motion also was not seconded, the vote was

motion also was not seconded, the vote was taken. It resulted in 19 votes for Mr. Hunt and 2 blanks. The announcement of the vote was received with applause.

President Hunt made a little speech. He said he felt that his redection was an endorsement of his administration since July last, and that it was equivalent to the Board's saying to him that whatsoever he had done had tended toward the fulfilment of the trusts committed to him.

toward the fulfilment of the trusts committed to him.

"I believe in the education of all." he said.

"A pation's rank in the civilized world depends on the educational advancement of every one of its citizens. It will not do for the uppor dissect to dazzle the ere with the brightness of their glided exterior if below them yawns a seething cauldron of ign-rance. I want our school system such that when we go along the lanes and byways of this great city every child we take by the hand may owe its intellectual and moral advancement to our lostering care. Let it be said of us as it was said of the old Roman Consuls. They had seen to it that the republic ischeol system received no harm."

to it that the republic ischeol system) received no harm."

Arthur McMullin was unanimously redicated Clerk and Col. Balch was again chosen Auditor by a vote of 1s to 3 blanks.

The next two hours were spent in postponing things. The report of the Committee on Teachers about exempt and non-exempt taachers was laid over for the sixth time. The matter of the erection of a school at Hester and Chrystie streets, for which the Finance Committee had appropriated \$265,000, was referred to the Building Committee.

Commissioner (see all resolution, declaring that the Board of Education frowned on principals or teachers signing petitions for the appointment of persons to school offices, was adopted.

A recolution offered by Commissioner

adopted.

A resolution offered by Commissioner Adolph L Sanger and ordered printed for consideration at the next meeting, provides for the appointment of a committee of seven to consider and report upon the proposed purchase and leasing of school sites, the enlargement and erection of school buildings, and the advisability of discontinuing or consolidating schools in neighborhoods where the attendance of pupils does not justify the multiplication of school buildings.

GUILTY, SAYS BUTTNER.

The Divorce Rogues The Sun Exposed Will be in Sing Sing Before Sunday.

Divorce Shark William H. Buttner, whom THE SUN'S exposures lodged in the Tombs. was arraigned yesterday in the General Secsions to plead to the indictments against him for forgery in the second degree and grand larceny in the second degree in selling a forged divorce to Cesare Boggia for \$100. Buttner appeared at the bar unshaven and

shabby. He pleaded guilty to the indictment charging him with larceny, and the understanding is that he will not be required to plead to the indictment for forgery, but that Recorder Smyth will consider the existence of that indictment in sentencing him. The probability is that he will get the full term for the larceny, which is five years.

After Clerk Hall had recorded his plea Buttner plucked up a little courage, and, squaring himself somewhat after his old bullyragging style of handling a witness, he said in a voice that could be heard across the City Hall Park:

"I have a statement to make your Honor. In regard to the bogus divorce given to Pendieton by Hughes."

I don't care to hear any statement now, interposed Recorder Smyth. "You may prepare and send to me a written statement between now and Friday morning, when you will be sentenced."

So Buttner, with an angry flush upon his unshaven cheek turned from the bar and went back to the Tombs in handcuffs to join Hughes. his partner in the divorce business, who will also be sentenced on Friday. charging him with larceny, and the under-

Soon Of for a Southern Cruise,

Orders have been issued at the navy yard for the remainder of Bear Admiral Gherhardi's squadron to start this week for Southern waters for a winter cruise in and near the Guif. Nearly all of the ships have already Guif. Nearly all of the ships have already sailed. The Dolphin sailed several days ago, a lew days ago it was supposed that the ships still remaining in the navy yard would not all leave for some time, but now it is probable that the Philadelphia. Chicago, and Yorktown will leave not later than Saturday afternoon. The Chicago has nearly completed coaling, and the Philadelphia and Yorktown will be ready to sail at that time. The fleet may stop for a few days at Hampton Roads, but that has not been decided. The Boston has gone into dry dock to have her bottom scraped and painted.

Foreign Notes of Real Interest.

The last open letter of Dr. Schliemann was to the Wiener New Preis Press, and was a denial of the reportant his daughter Andromache was about to be pushed

The Prumian income tax roll laid before the Landtag gives some interesting information as to the incomes of amounts to \$1,500,000, on a property assessed at \$37,000,000 the Government tax being \$45,000. The te worth \$25,000,000), the next \$15,000,000, and the next \$14,000,000.

A professors' strike is in progress in Bucharest. The members of the philosophical faculty have refused to lecture because the Minister of Education has appoint-ed to a professorable of Roumanian history a young nan who has never made any special investigation of the subject. The Minister of Education has refused to cancel the appointment. The deadlock will be broken, it is thought, by the refusal of the appointe to accept, Another great name has just been added to the int of Berman rascals. Count Josef Grotta von Grotteners Freiberr von Finckenstein and Kreyg, an officer in the imperial Austrian army, who has fied from Vienna to escape arrest for having robbed a butcher of \$80. He and his mistress entered at night the butcher's shor under their rooms, and before morning were off with their petty plunder to London, whence, it is thought

their petty plunder to London, whence, it is inough, they started for America.

An academy for acientific wavellers has just been added to the University of Genoa. The aim of its faculty will be to repare all its students for careful investigation of all phenomena which they may meet with in their explorations. The course of instruction will include topography, geology, geography, sollegy, comparative anatomy, anthropology, mineralogy, by-giene, paleontology, and photography. The instruction will be free, and the matriculation fee will be but \$4. The Austrian Ministry of Trade is making great prepa rations for the International Postal Congress in Vienna next May. The grounds and buildings of the Society for Garden Culture have been lessed for the Congress and the big salon has been already redecorated and rear representatives from all European and American States, and will remain in session six weeks. It will be presided over by Ritter von Obentraut, General Director of the Austrian Post Office and Telegraph.

The "Social Democratic Song Book" was suppressed.

n Germany during the recent period of repression, but the market in vast quantities. The book contains b sides a few classics by Hood and Freiligrath a large number of bleedthirsty exhortations that the worting-men must stash right and left to get their rights. Two weeks ago, therefore, the imperial Covernment had several thousand bundles of the books confiscated in class against class" and to "incite to the commission of penal offences." Persons caught selling the o ectionable volumes are arrested.

The completed census returns of the German cities

show that the empire has twenty six cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants against twenty-one such cities ten years ago, twenty-three with 50,000-100.00 at twenty three ten years ago, and too with 20,000-80,000 inhatitants against eighty two ten years aga. Of the twenty-six largest cifies one has more than a million and a half, four between 300,00 and 400,000, eighteen between 100,000 and 200,000. The percentual increase of the most populous cities in the last ten years has been remarkable in view of the fact that they are not swelled. If a American cities by immigration from abroad. The gain in Berlin has been 1s7 her cent; in Leipsic. 22.1; in Munich, 27.9; in Cologne. 17.9; in Magdeburg, 20.4; in Frankfort, 16.3; in Disact-dorf, 17.6; in Nurnberg, 24. in Chemnitz, 25.3; in Brunswick, 221; in Halle, 23.1. The Prussian Ministry of Education has just admon-

shed the school teachers in the seral districts under its supervision that numerous steps must be taken at once to preserve the health of the scholars. "Among the immediate and inexpensive measures," says the circular letter. "are the exact adap amon of the bick of the school bench to the shape of the pupies back general deanliness, and especially the prevanton of dust, which, as all doctors know, is the medium of bacilli, and thus the cause of almost all skin and eye diseases among school obtidren. Regard for the health of the eyes must dictate also the earliest possible aboil the primary classes. The children must be so accus tomed to the pen in these two year that all exercise from the beginning of the third year can be executed with pen, ink, and paper. States are so injurious to the eyes that they should be used only in cases of absolute

Although the number of amateur photographers has been wonderfully increased by

WHAT WE ARE ALL TALKING ABOVE

the production of the kind of cameras in which the operator has merely to press the button that drops the shutters, while some professional photographer develops the negatives and makes the prints, it is not a little stagular and makes the prints, it is not a little singular that the New York owners of such cameras have to send out of town to get their work developed. So far as I know, said a gentleman connected with a leading monthly magazine Festerday, "there is not a single cabable photographer in New York who will do the developing of the paper films used in these amateur cameras. One man, who does the best kind of work on glass plates, makes wretoed work with the paper films."

The notices of the death of a farmer at New Lots, L. I., named Rapelje describe him as of an old family. There never was truer word written. The first white child born on this island was a Httle girl named Rapelje, and the island was a Mille girl named Rapells, and the news of her birth was sent to Holland in the lirst ship that left here after the trading post was established on Manhattan Island. She was in all probability born within the stockeds which stood where the Bowling Green now is. There are only fourteen Rarelle families on the island now, and not one beings to the Four Hundred. They spell its relie in six different ways, and only one follows the old spelling of the name.

Who has ever noticed how a pretty woman gets a sent in a crowded car? It was resterday that a beautiful young woman entered an elevated car in which not a seat was unocc pled. She disdained the straps that dangled temptingly above the tulips in her hat She walked to the middle of the car and backed up walked to the middle of the car and backed up against one of the transverse seats. Of course, every man was looking at her, and of course she knew it. She cast her great blue eyes at the ceiling and then brought them down on a level with the line of mons faces. There was no particular expression in her gaze; she merely looked smitingly along the line as if she was thinking angels thoughts and not looking at anything. However, every man clutched the arms of his seat, and every man felt that wherever her eyes slopped and rested the victim would have to get up. As it was, when her gaze reached the men nearest to her three of them sprang to their local. It was at the Harlem Democratic dinner. The

guests had just taken their seats at the tables. The colored waiters, resplendent in full dress, were bustling about with itching paims. A jolly party sat down at one of the tables. The leader took his seat at the head of the table and beckoned to one of the waiters. As the and beckened to one of the waiters. As the expectant darkey leaned over him the club man took slowly from his pocket a wallet and from that a crisp new \$2 bill. With the greatest deliberation he folded it through the centre, while the waiter's eyes began to roil. Laying the greenback on the table, he pressed his knife along the crease and calmy tore the bill in two, to the horror of the waiter and to the surprise of his own party. One-half of the bill he tooked into his vest pocket. The other half he handed to the waiter, remarking isconically: "The rest after dinner—perhapa." There wasn't another table in the room that got the service that that table got, and the waiter was finally rewarded with the other half the bill. Stepniak takes pains in all his private con-

persations to disown the words "Nihilist" and "nihilism." "There are no real Nihilists in Russia," he said recently. "You couldn't find twenty men in the empire who believe in nothing. The National Revolutionary party is the Bussia and the demands of the party show it to be very far from nothingism. They want universal suffrage, separation of Church and State, and constitutional government. Our most radical demand is that the land shall be nationalized, and that is far less radical with us than Henry George's demand with you for in Russia the villages, and not the peasants, own the land already." On the question of woman's rights the National Revolutionary party is rather innarmonious. Stepniak says, although he himself favore giving women all the political privileges that men have. According to the high priest of nihilism, in fact, the Nihilists are even less radical than the Luglish or German Bodialists. For they are willing to keep the Crar on the throne if he will only take to himself a Coneritution and Parliament, while the socialistic Germans and Englishmen will hear nothing of a monarchy. Bussia, and the demands of the party show it

"I see," said a boarder, "that a leader of the Young Men's Christian Association has been making a sentimental speech about the guess that he does not know as much as I do about our New York boarding houses. I pay about our New York boarding houses. I pay \$6 a week in a Lexington avenue establishment, and it is as cheerful a home as anybody could want. We have plenty of company every night of the week; we listen to musle from the plane at times; we have games in the house; we get, up parties to which our friends come; we enjoy the society of the ladies; we go out to some amusement once of twice every week; we have reading circles, and, in short, we arend cheerful bours whenever we have hours to spars. There are thousands of pleasant boarding houses in New York, and I myself have been a boarder ever since I came here, twenty years ago."

The proposition to have a Post Office where the Forty-second sweet reservoir now stands is rather a startling one to old New Yorkers. It will place the residences of about two hun dred millionaires and society people down town, and will probably put even famous pal-aces, such as those of the Vanderbilts. Whitneys, Huntingtons, and Goelets, below the line of the fashionable circle. With a Post Office in For-ty-second street. Fifth avenue would be a solid funtangions, and Goelets, below the line of the fashionable circle. With a Post Office in Forty-second street, Fifth avenue would be a solid and substantial street in earnest. There would be a cluster of theatres, at least one great dry glods house, and the main building of a famous New York newspaper all up in the vicinity of the old reservoir, and that would mean the crowding of the resistence district fifty blocks further up town.

"Do the 400 go to church?" is a question not te be answered by people who are ignerant of the facts. It was under debate the other night in a high-toned club, and the conclusion was reached after much investigation, and after many chosen names had been taken up, that the great majority of the members of these to the 400 are pewholders in fashionable churches. Some of them are church members, but others are merely worshippers not yet admitted to all the privileges of the faith. If Mr. Ward McAllister would give all the facts, might rest assured that they would be trinted in the papers.

A striking signboard may sometimes be the neans of making its owner's fortune. There are plenty of places in town where old umare plenty of places in town where old um-brellas are mended, but the west side mender who put up the sign "Umbrella Hespital" struck an idea that none of his rivals had thought of. People langhed at it took a sec-ond glance at it, looked at the place, and told their acquaintances about it, thus advertising the umbrella hespital and sending customers to it. Unless the signs fail, that signboard will yet enrich its inventor.

It was years ago that the "learned French barber" of this city published his lively bro-chure, "Figure in New York," It is now announced by an east side German knight of the razor that he is determined to throw the Frenchman into the shade. He is engaged in Frenchman into the shade. He is engaged in the composition of a history of the barber's art in all ages and countries, including Faynt and Chairlea in dia and thins. Greece and Reme. He tolk over his manuscript at those times of the day and evening when business is lack, and when there is no shaving, haircutting or samppoing to be done in his shop. He is always glad to be interrupted in his literary inhors by the advent of a customer for it is necessary that he should make a living while prosecuting his historical researches.

"I understand," said the Growler, "that the lorgnetic is going out of fash on and I am de-lighted if the rumor is true. There is nothing in this world that can turn a sweet little woman into a supercilions snob so easily as the lorgnette. They make me feel uncomfortable lorgnette. They make me feel uncomfortable wherever I see them. When I see a woman looking at me through the lorgnette I feel as if my clothes were nine or ten sizes too large for me: I experience the sensation which is magning the viet nio a layer to the self-when the eve of the master is laxed up in him. The lorgnette is a success cuity as a discourager of mashe is and is, so far, to be commended; but when it tackles religiously as a discourager of mashes in make a self-respecting manhood and when it tackles religiously the owner little short of crimical, and should be suppressed by fashion if not by law."

Viscious facts became evident during the holidays. One was that a rule followed by ninety nine men out of one hundred existed in these words; "When in doubt, give a doil." Another was that, even if the average man began to procure his Christmas presents now for the 25th of next December, midnight of the 24th the 25th of next December, midnight of the 24th of that month would find him with his most important gifts still unbought; and ungiven gifts are as useless as unkissed kisses. A third fact brought home was that no woman was ever wholly satisfied with the presents side 20. It they were for her buby they were it good enough; if they were for her buby they were it good enough; if they were for hers if she had others like them. Five women net accidents in a car the day before New Year's they were a going to exchange Christmap pre-ents and they all got off when the conductor called Filternth street.